

CLAIMS

1. A hose having a connector at an end portion thereof for providing a connection with a unit, the connector comprising a first moulded member having an inner annular surface moulded to an outer annular surface of said end portion to provide a fluid-tight connection with the end portion, and a fastener for fastening the connector to the unit.

2. A hose as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fastener is for fastening the first moulded member to the unit.

3. A hose as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connector comprises a second moulded member, wherein said first moulded member is moulded between the second moulded member and the hose end portion so that an outer annular surface of the first moulded member corresponds in shape to an inner annular surface of the second moulded member to allow relative rotation between the first moulded member and the second moulded member, wherein the fastener is for fastening the second moulded member to the unit, and wherein, when the hose is connected to the unit, relative rotation between the hose and the unit is allowed.

4. A hose as claimed in claim 3, wherein the outer annular surface of the first moulded member is moulded against the inner annular surface of the second moulded member to provide a fluid-tight connection therebetween.

5. A hose as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein an annular seal is moulded about the first moulded member for sealing an annular space between the first moulded member and the fastener.

6. A hose as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein the hose comprises an inner tube for the passage of fluid and an outer sleeve for providing support for the inner tube, and wherein the inner annular surface of the first moulded

member is moulded to an outer annular surface of both the inner tube and the outer sleeve.

7. A hose as claimed in any preceding claim, having a further said connector at an opposing end hose portion thereof for providing a connection with a unit at the opposing end portion.

8. A hose as claimed in claim 7, when dependent on claim 3, wherein at least one of said end portion and said opposing end portion has a said connector which allows relative rotation between the hose and the unit when connected to the unit.

9. A hose as claimed in claim 8, wherein the connector is for connecting the hose to an attachment for relative rotation between the attachment and the hose.

10. A method of manufacturing a hose having a connector at an end portion thereof for providing a connection with a unit, the method comprising the steps of:

inserting a core inside a hose end portion to support the hose end portion during moulding;

moulding a first moulded member with an inner annular surface thereof moulded to an outer annular surface of said end portion;

withdrawing said core; and

positioning a fastener at said end portion for fastening the connector to the unit.

11. A method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising the steps of:

moulding a second moulding member prior to moulding the first moulding member;

positioning the second moulded member relative to the hose end portion so that the first moulded member is moulded between the second moulded member and the hose end portion so that an outer annular surface of the first moulded member corresponds in shape to an inner annular surface of the second moulded member to allow relative rotation between the first moulded member and the second moulded member; and

positioning the fastener at said end portion for fastening the second moulded member to a unit.

12. A method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising the step of:
moulding an annular seal about the first moulded member for sealing an annular space between the first moulded member and the fastener.

13. A shower assembly comprising:
a shower base unit;
a shower head unit;
and a hose as claimed in any of claims 1 to 9 having a first said connector at one said end portion thereof for providing a connection with the shower base unit; and a second said connector at an opposing said end portion thereof for providing a connection with the shower head unit, for allowing the supply of water from the shower base unit to the shower head unit.

14. A shower assembly comprising:
a shower base unit;
a shower head unit;
and a hose for the supply of water from the shower base unit to the shower head unit, the hose having a connector at an end portion thereof for providing a connection with the shower head unit;

wherein the connector comprises: a first moulded member and a second moulded member, the first moulded member being moulded between the second moulded member and the hose end portion, the first moulded member having:

an inner annular surface moulded to an outer annular surface of said end portion to provide a fluid-tight connection with the end portion; and

an outer annular surface which corresponds in shape to an inner annular surface of the second moulded member to allow relative rotation between the first moulded member and the second moulded member,

wherein the connector further comprises a fastener for fastening the second moulded member to the shower head unit, and wherein, when the hose is connected to

the shower head unit, relative rotation between the hose and the shower head unit is allowed.